

on out of school children commissioned under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programme in 2005, the report says that the number of out of school children has halved from 25 million in 2002 to 13.5 million in 2005.

Several steps have been taken to increase the adult literacy rates and also to enroll out of school children. In order to improve the adult literacy position the National Literacy Mission aims at imparting functional literacy to adult illiterates in the 15—35 age group. Apart from the regular basic literacy and post literacy programmes, an Accelerated Female Literacy Programme has been taken up in low female literacy district in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa and Jharkhand and a Special Literacy Drive is being taken up in 150 low literacy districts of the country to cover residual illiterates. In respect of out of school children, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) seeks universalisation of elementary education as well as universal retention by 2010. The SSA provides for several varieties of interventions, such as opening of new schools, setting up of Education Guarantee Scheme Centres and Alternative & Innovative Education facilities to enhance enrolment, incentives, focus on education of girls and weaker sections of society and, to improve quality of education in schools.

Reduction of seats in technical education

1974. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether students aspiring for technical education would have tougher competition ahead as 11,000 seats have been cut off from various institutions for academic year 2006-07;

(b) whether after a massive inspection exercise, AICTE has decided to curtail intake due to inadequate infrastructure, faculty deficiency and violation of norms;

(c) whether, out of 4,224 technical education institutions in country, AICTE had inspected 3,270 institutions; and

(d) whether any final decision has been taken on reducing intakes in

404 institutions out of 3,270 inspected ones and putting 45 institutions under non admission category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) During the academic year 2005-06 the AICTE based on the inspections reports, has reduced 20790 seats in 383 technical institutions all over India. However, on compliance reports submitted by Institutes, 17566 seats were restored. At the same time, the Council has also increased 67243 seats in various courses in technical institutions all over the country. Thus there is no reduction in the availability of seats.

(c) For the academic year 2006-07 around 800 surprise visits have been conducted based on the random selection.

(d) 41 Institutions were put under No Admission Category out of which 36 have complied with norms and standards of AICTE, finally these 36 institutions have been restored.

IIT at Ahmedabad

1975. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an IIT is proposed to be set up at Ahmedabad and this would be the first city to be a home both to IIM and IIT;

(b) whether Government are aware that Orissa has all along been deprived of this facility and the students of the State have to go to far off cities to seek degrees; and

(c) if so, by when Government would set up such an institute of excellence in this backward State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Orissa has various institutions and colleges for imparting technical education as under:-